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Agenda item 5
Human rights bodies and mechanisms

Open-ended intergovernmental working group on a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace

Note by the Secretariat

1. In its resolution 20/15 of 5 July 2012, the Human Rights Council decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group with the mandate of progressively negotiating a draft United Nations declaration on the right to peace. The working group held its first session from 18 to 21 February 2013.

2. In its resolutions 23/16 of 13 June 2013 and 27/17 of 25 September 2014, the Human Rights Council decided that the open-ended intergovernmental working group should hold its second session in 2014 and its third session in 2015. Accordingly, the second session was held from 30 June to 4 July 2014 and the third session was held from 20 to 24 April 2015, with the objective of finalizing the text of the declaration.

3. On 1 October 2015, the Human Rights Council adopted resolution 30/12, by which it decided that the working group should hold its fourth session, again with the objective of finalizing the declaration.

4. In its resolution 32/28 of 1 July 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted the Declaration on the Right to Peace and recommended that the General Assembly adopt the Declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 (c) of its resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006.

5. Consequently, the fourth session of the open-ended intergovernmental working group has been cancelled and no further sessions are foreseen.

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